



February 4, 2009

To Members of the Labor Committee:

My name is Anson Mooney, President of Hartford Despatch & Warehouse Company Inc. of East Hartford, CT. I am a third generation employer. We struggle daily with the down turn in the current economic environment, some of which has been brought on by anti-business policies your committee seems to consider sacred. Quite honestly I've had enough.

I write to voice my opposition to HB-6187, and other bills which I will fight under separate cover. HB-6187 as structured requires Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave, regardless of the tenure or strength of an employee. The bill as I see it brings nothing to an employer but headaches and added cost. This proposal will substantially increase our business costs and could force us to limit hiring new people. It will not encourage us to grow or expand. Is that what you want? Successful enactment of this bill will definitely force me to reevaluate the other benefits we provide our employees.

To me it is a bit of an outrage that your committee would attempt to pen legislation that will only seek to raise the cost of doing business in CT. Who do you people serve? Have you ever tried to run a business? Don't you understand the cost private business in CT is higher than all of our neighboring states and most of the U.S.? Have you no consideration for what is going on in the economy? Call me and I will give you an up-close and personal feel for how hard it is to make a buck in this high cost state.

I urge you to reject this proposal. You should work with the business community to control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut and not against businesses by making it even harder to stay alive. Work with businesses now before there aren't any left.

Sincerely,
Anson B. Mooney
President